



BONNIE LOWENTHAL

**VICE MAYOR, CITY OF LONG BEACH
FIRST DISTRICT COUNCILMEMBER**

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Greetings

Dear Friend:

I recently participated in a Beer & Politics mixer with sponsor Long Beach Junior Chamber of Commerce to discuss affordable housing and economic development in the City of Long Beach.

During the discussion, I addressed the critical need for affordable housing to fight homelessness and poverty, to provide for a steady workforce, and to improve parking. Affordable housing also significantly impacts our local economy as overpaying for housing makes it difficult to afford other necessities.

Some people do not understand the severity of the affordable housing crisis. They even think that if we do not provide affordable housing, the poor will go away and find an affordable place somewhere else. The reality is that rising housing costs are affecting people already here in our community. We need to ensure that safe, decent and affordable housing is available for our young professionals, teachers, artists, retail salespersons, security officers, nurses aides, social workers, janitors, and their families.

With the outstanding efforts of the Long Beach Housing Development Corporation, we will continue to add affordable housing units to the City's rental and sale supply. I will continue to push for and support the development of a Housing Trust Fund, an increase in relocation benefits to those displaced by condo-conversions, and other measures to improve the quality and availability of affordable housing.

Regards,

Bonnie Lowenthal

Events and Meetings

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13

- The Port of Long Beach's annual open house is now Green Port Fest, a day of tours, exhibits, entertainment and other fun. Port Fest is on October 13 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Port Administration Building, with free parking at the Queen Mary, 1126 Queen's Highway.

The event provides the public with an interactive opportunity to learn about one of the world's busiest seaports and its groundbreaking Green Port Policy - a sweeping framework for how the Port is addressing environmental impacts and changing the very way it does business. Last year 5,000 people attended the event.

This year, Port Fest features train tours and a celebrity appearance by three-time Olympic gold medal swimmer and environmental advocate Aaron Peirsol.

Here's a preview of the event's highlights:

- Go Out on the Water: Boat trips will take visitors on tours to see sea lions, giant ships and the Port in action.
- Ride the Green Port Express: Train tours will be departing a special station throughout the day, so hop aboard the rails to see how cargo moves in and out of the Port by train.
- Celebrity Appearance by Aaron Peirsol: Three-time Olympic gold medalist swimmer Aaron Peirsol will sign autographs and talk about his environmental advocacy on behalf of clean oceans.
- Learn from the Experts: About 70 interactive displays will show how the Port is protecting wildlife, reducing air pollution, improving security and more.



- Security Station: Check out security equipment, patrol boats, robot demonstrations, canine partners and meet officers from the Port Harbor Patrol, U.S. Coast Guard and Customs and Border Protection who protect the Port.
- A Touch Tank Display: Get a hands-on look at sea anemones, starfish, sharks and other sea life at the Long Beach Aquarium of the Pacific's touch-tank.
- Free Parking: Shuttle buses will take visitors from the free parking site, at the Queen Mary, to Green Port Fest. Long Beach Transit hybrid-powered buses will shuttle visitors to the boat tour dock area.
- Big Machines: See the giant "top picks," "yard hostlers" and other heavy equipment that move cargo containers around Port terminals.
- You're the Engineer: Don't miss

the rail simulator, where you can experience what it's like to drive the locomotives that move freight trains at the Port.

- Music and Dance: The entertainment stage will feature the best of local Long Beach entertainment, including music, dancing and other performances throughout the day.
- Eyes Under the Sea: See how the Port's new underwater security submersibles are assisting the Harbor Patrol to protect the community.
- What's in the Box? A cargo container helps visitors understand how our shipping system works.
- Children's Playground: Children can visit the bounce house, slide, an arts and crafts activity center, or sit for a face painting.
- Green Port Theater: The stage play "Pollution Solution," by International City Theater, will be featured.
- A Walk through History: Historical photographs and artifacts in our special "Discovery Center" will bring the Port's past to life.

Wednesday, October 17

- Please join the Long Beach Police Department for a Crime Prevention Meeting featuring a Crime Prevention Showcase on how your neighborhood can work together with law enforcement to prevent and reduce crime. Meeting to take place at 7:00 pm at the Long Beach Water Department, 1800 East Wardlow Road, west of Cherry Avenue. For more information, call the Community Relations Division at 562.570.7215.
- West Long Beach Industrial Project Area Business Corridor Revitalization Meeting, 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm at 1766 Seabright Ave. The Community Development Department will begin the 1st of 3 phases to revitalize Santa Fe Avenue between Anaheim and Pacific Coast Highway. Community Development conducts outreach to all the property owners along the corridor and invites them to an information meeting where various city resources are offered. Revitalization efforts will include various city departments including Police, Fire, Community Development, Economic Development, Planning and Building, Code Enforcement and more. For more information, contact Francisco Rodriguez in Community Development at 562.570.1010.

Saturday, October 20

- Neighborhood Cleanup in the Craftsman Village Historic District in partnership with the 7th Street Community Police Center and Litter Free Long Beach. Please join us in making a difference in our neighborhood. Cleanup from 9 am – 12 pm. Meet at 851 Orange Avenue – the new park site. Tires, computers and televisions will be collected at this event! A LARGE DUMPSTER will be available, so you can get rid of items too large for regular trash pick up. Free refreshments will be provided for all volunteers.
- Lights Out Long Beach – turn off all nonessential lights from 8 pm – 9 pm to help raise awareness about energy conservation and energy efficiency.



Monday, October 22

- New City School needs your help! Please join the New City School at 1637 Long Beach Boulevard in building a playspace in partnership with KaBoom from 10 am

– 5 pm on Monday, October 22. Preparation days on Friday October 19 and Saturday October 20. No prior construction or playground building experience is



necessary. Many volunteers are needed so please feel free to invite your family, friends, neighbors, colleagues, etc. Special sponsors include: the California Governor and First Lady's Conference on Women. To sign up, please call Tami at 562.682.8738. For more information, please visit <http://projects.kaboom.org/newcityschool>

Thursday, October 25

- Snug Top Water Tower Unveiling and Reception at 3:00 pm. The signature water tower in the Westside Industrial Area has been renovated and repainted thanks to the leadership of the RDA and West PAC. While not in functional use, the water tower will remain an iconic structure in the Westside. Please join city staff, community leaders and businesses in the WPAC for the unveiling celebration. The water tower is located at 1711 Harbor Avenue.

Saturday, October 27

- The Children's Clinic 17th Annual BEACH WALK, starts at 9:00 am at the Shoreline Bike Path. The Children's Clinic provides comprehensive health care to low-income uninsured populations in the Southern California area. The event will also feature a Health and Fitness Fair. For more information, please visit www.tccbeachwalk.kintera.org.
- Children and Families Without Homes: A Dialogue, presented by the Long Beach Area Coalition for the Homeless and the Long Beach Community Action Network. The event is from 10 am – 12:30 pm at the Chavez Park Community Center.

Sunday, October 28

- University by the Sea, from 12 pm – 9 pm in downtown Long Beach. Members of the community are encouraged to participate and attend the University by the Sea, a new omnibus festival celebrating art, film and culture. Thirty cool classes will be taught in ten of Pine Avenue's favorite restaurants. A unique film showcase featuring films with ties to Long Beach will be shown in the historic Jergins Tunnel. CSULB's best student films and Kaleidoscope exhibits will be shown on Pine. The festival will also feature live music, vibrant arts corridor, and underwater robotics. For more information, please visit www.universitybythesea.com



Tuesday, October 30

- Beer and Politics at Gallagher's Pub and Grill, 2751 E. Broadway, 7:00 pm. Beer and Politics is a monthly series, incubated with the Long Beach Junior Chamber, offering an opportunity to engage in a positive political dialog over a pint of beer on the last Tuesday of every month. The October meeting's featured speakers are California Senator Alan Lowenthal and Long Beach Mayor Bob Foster. Please contact Michael Clements at michael@beerandpolitics.org or visit www.beerandpolitics.org for more information.



Wednesday, November 7



- Long Beach Police Department West Division Community Leadership Forum at the West Division Substation, 1835 Santa Fe, at 6:00 pm. Members of the community are welcome to discuss and exchange information with West Division Command Staff and Officers. The forum will feature information on crime trends and updates. Please RSVP to Noor Ismail at 562.570.3463 or Jose Vasquez at 562.570.3461.

- Grand Opening of Neo Zoe at 1500 Pine Avenue. Neo Zoe at Pine features 22 two-story attached town homes, 10 of which are affordable housing units, available for home ownership purchase. The affordable units will be offered to qualified low- and moderate-income first time home buyers. The units are 2 bed/2 bath and 3 bed/2 bath. The community features private patios, underground parking and lush landscaping.



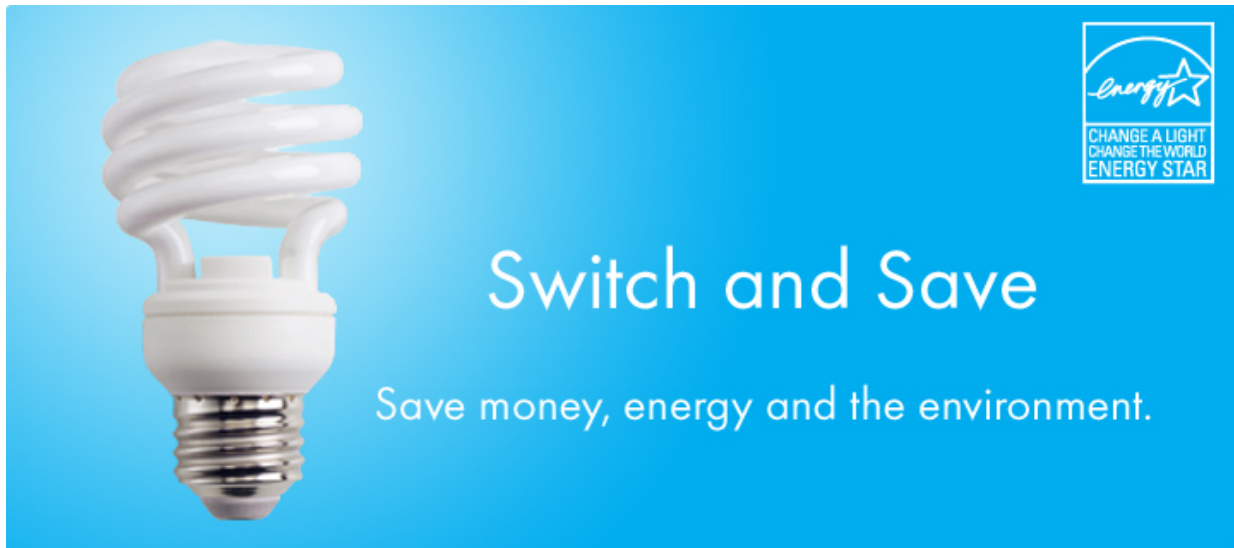
Council Happenings

CITY COUNCIL APPROVES LIGHTS OUT LONG BEACH

Vice Mayor Bonnie Lowenthal and Mayor Bob Foster introduced a measure on October 9, 2007 to support energy conservation and efficiency. The Long Beach City Council voted unanimously in support to declare "Lights Out Long Beach" urging people throughout the City to switch off all nonessential lights for one hour on Saturday, October 20, 2007, from 8:00 pm – 9:00 pm, and replace one incandescent light bulb

with one compact fluorescent light bulb, coinciding with efforts in the County of Los Angeles, Cities of San Francisco and Los Angeles.

The potential energy savings, greenhouse gas emission reductions, and educational benefits of participating in “Lights Out Long Beach” are plentiful. For example, the City of Sydney, Australia was able to save more than 24 tons of carbon dioxide – the equivalent of taking 48,000 cars off the road for one-hour, by turning off their lights for one hour.”



Incandescent light bulbs are extremely inefficient, converting only 5 percent of energy into light. Incandescent light bulbs require a greater source of our energy supply, cost more in electric bills, and arrive at our landfills faster. The compact fluorescent on the other hand requires less energy and lasts up to 10x longer, lowering electricity bills and carbon emissions to benefit people financially and environmentally.

Councilmember Rae Gabelich requested that the City identify collection sites for fluorescent light bulbs, which are not appropriate for trash disposal. The Long Beach Public Works Department is working on finding a permanent site for household hazardous waste collection.

SHOPPING CART ADMINISTRATIVE CITATION PROGRAM



On October 2, 2007, City Council voted in support of an ordinance to establish an administrative citation program for shopping cart owners whose carts are found on the public right-of-way. This has been a key objective of Vice Mayor Lowenthal's for many years.

In the prior shopping cart program, City staff had to provide stores with a 24-hour warning prior to issuing an administrative citation. To comply with this request, staff photographed abandoned carts, provided cart owners with a 24-hour warning notice, conducted re-inspections 24 hours thereafter, and issued administrative citations if violations persisted.

The new sweeps will consist of photographing abandoned

carts and tracking them to the offending retailer, resulting in a \$100 fine and further investigation by the Department of Public Works. Any retailer cited more than ten times in a 30-day period will be required to start a cart containment system. If further citations are issued after that point, the retailer will be reported to the City Prosecutor.

MEANDERING SIDEWALKS TO SAVE OLD-GROWTH TREES

Old-growth trees are valuable to communities for the added environmental benefits, shade, and historic character, but often grow with a strength that uproots sidewalks and parkways. The Department of Public Works and the City arborists work together to save every tree possible on public property. Tree removal is used as a last resort on a small number of trees each year only when other options such as root pruning, root shaving, and root cutting, are not sufficient to address the problem.

One alternative to tree removal is creating meandering sidewalks that curve the sidewalk away from the tree root, allowing the root and tree to stay intact, while also providing for an ADA accessible path along the public sidewalk.



The City Council passed a measure introduced by Vice Mayor Bonnie Lowenthal to request that the Department of Public Works and the Tree Committee determine the feasibility, rights-of-way, legal and property line issues, cost, and workload of incorporating meandering sidewalks into the City's tree root repair programs, when applicable, while working in conjunction with other cities utilizing similar methods to save old-growth trees.

CHANGES TO ELECTION –RELATED ORDINANCES



Wasted ballots cost the City \$42,096 in May 2007

The Long Beach City Council voted to support of a number of election related changes aimed to provide clarification and increase savings for voters: (1) Any recount that aims to affect the official results must involve the examination of all ballots; and any member may request a partial recount which will not affect the official results. (2) Consolidate the City campaign filing deadlines when they are within 7 days of the state deadlines and adjust the reporting periods accordingly. (3) Reduce the number of polling place ballots from 75% of registered voters to

not less than 40% in order to take into account absentee ballots and wasted money from unused ballots (4) allow 8 business days for protest of misleading or incorrect voters materials or candidate statements in primary elections, 5 business days for protest in general elections.

Community News

'PARK ON PINE' EMPHASIZING COMMUNITY DESIRE FOR MORE PARK SPACE

By feeding the parking meter, Studio 111 and the North Pine Neighborhood Association rented public parking spaces on Pine Avenue and transformed it into small temporary public parks with nature, seating, shade, and even a dog park! Their efforts highlight the importance of public recreational spaces in outdoor urban settings. Vice Mayor Bonnie Lowenthal visited the parks and announced the good news that a dog park is the works for the vacant lot on 9th and Pacific.



VICE MAYOR BONNIE LOWENTHAL'S SEARCH FOR SUSTAINABILITY

In an effort to raise environmental awareness, Vice Mayor Bonnie Lowenthal created a "Search for Sustainability" word search to be distributed to kids at various public events with exciting environmental prizes upon completion.

The word search allows students to become more familiar with concepts that are good for the environment (such as renewable energy, smart growth, public transit) and aware of concepts with bad environmental impacts (such as global warming, oil dependence and nurdles). The search includes the definitions for all 30 words.

"I hope this fun activity encourages students to learn some important vocabulary terms and think about adopting positive changes in their lifestyles in order to benefit the environment," stated Vice Mayor Bonnie Lowenthal. "We can make a real difference everyday by recycling, riding a bike, picking up litter, conserving water, and using reusable bags instead of plastic bags. Change is not only possible, but absolutely necessary."

To view the word search, please visit the Vice Mayor's website at:
www.longbeach.gov/district1/sustainability.asp

CLEAN TRUCKS PROGRAM

The Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles adopted the Clean Air Action Plan (CAAP) in November 2006 in an effort to reduce emissions related to port operations. As part of the CAAP's emission reduction efforts, the Clean Trucks Program is a plan to scrap and replace the oldest of 16,000 trucks working at the ports, and retrofit the others, with a lease-to-own fleet of clean fueled trucks provided with the assistance of a port-sponsored grant subsidy.

The program under development by the port staffs would only allow port-licensed concessionaires, operating "clean trucks," to enter port terminals without having to pay a new truck impact gate fee. Port-licensed concessionaires that continue to work in the ports with older, more polluting trucks would be required to pay a truck impact gate fee. In order to ensure that the clean trucks stay in port service for specified period of time or miles, the plan calls for trucking company concessionaires to employ drivers rather than contracting with individual owner operators.

Over the last couple of months POLB/POLA has met with and received comments from various stakeholders. Port Commissioners are continuing to hold public hearings and receive input. In addition, the Ports have commissioned an economic study to look at the proposed plan even further.



Vice Mayor Bonnie Lowenthal supports the Clean Trucks Program. She states, "The San Pedro Bay Ports Clean Air Action Plan cites diesel pollution from port serving trucks as one of the biggest contributors to the degradation of air in Los Angeles County. An important element of the plan is to limit port serving trucks to the cleanest burning fuel available and eliminate the older more polluting diesel vehicles. One of the strategies for doing this is to provide a leased-to-own fleet of clean fueled trucks and employ truckers to drive them.

I support this strategy as it accomplishes two things, it guarantees that the cleanest fuels will be used to power drayage vehicles accessing the ports, and it provides an opportunity for independent truckers to be assured a stable job and a living wage with access to health benefits. Many of the truckers currently live within the vicinity of the port and they and their families, along with the entire community, suffer from the impact of diesel particulates."

Vice Mayor Bonnie Lowenthal hopes to stay in touch with you electronically through e-newsletters. If you wish to be removed from the list, please email rhlee@longbeach.gov with "remove" in the subject line. If you wish to contact the Office of Vice Mayor Bonnie Lowenthal to discuss issues or concerns, please call 562.570.6919 or email district1@longbeach.gov. Thank you.